American Women Missionaries and Pioneers Collection

Part 1: Missionaries

The Irene Forsythe Hanson Papers, 1921-1980

Series I

Correspondence
(Incoming and outgoing intermixed)

Folder Description:

Correspondence,
March 19, 1945–November 14, 1945

Box Number:	***Folder Number:***
3	1

LAKE SHORE DRIVE AND OAK ST. BEACH

Looking north toward Lincoln Park, from The Drake along Chicago's famed Boulevard Link at the junction of upper Michigan Ave. and Lake Shore Drive. The view shows the exclusive near North Shore Gold Coast residential section overlooking Oak Street Beach.

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POST CARD

U·S POSTAGE 1¢ ½¢ FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND RELIGION FROM WANT AND FEAR

CHICAGO MAR 19 30 PM 1945 ILL.

RED CROSS WAR FUND

Miss Irene Forsythe
645 Ontario St.
Oak Park Ill.

279

LAKE SHORE DRIVE AND OAK ST. BEACH, CHICAGO

FROM KODACHROME

First Presbyterian Church

Second Avenue at East Fifth Street

Sterling, Illinois

Frederick Wyngarden, *Pastor*
Manse
609 Second Avenue

March 22,1945

Miss Irene Forsythe,
Chicago,Ill.

Dear Miss Forsythe,

I want to thank you most sincerely for the message,emphasis and blessing you brought to us all Wednesday.I had written to the Board last Fall asking for a missionary who could present the cause ably and spiritually and they recommended you.You certainly bore them out.

As I informed you,we are comparatively new here but I labor and pray for a larger missionary ~~ppeaceer~~ spirit and feel the only way,at least one of the best ways,in addition to prayer and preaching is to bring in a missionary who has the spiritual emphasis and who above all else,has a passion for lost souls,rather than be exclusively concerned about the social,the physical and economical,as though that were an end sufficient in itself.My,how hearts were moved Godward by your consecrated efforts.May God spare you and use you richly and mightily in the winning of many more souls for His heavenly Kingdom.You and your message are a benediction in this dreadful hour.

I hope the ladies treated you well and that you received generously your expenses.

Kindest regards and God's continued favor,We all remain,

Gratefully yours,

Frederick Wyngarden

10.00

Ambassador Class

LINWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

Dear Miss Forsythe,

Enclosed is a small gift from the Ambassador Class for you. It very inadequately expresses the sincere appreciation and love we have for you but we hope that you may find some personal use for it.

Thanks so much for being with us today and we will continue to pray that God's richest blessings may be on you and your work.

Gratefully

(Mrs John C.) Dexter B Skaggs Pres.

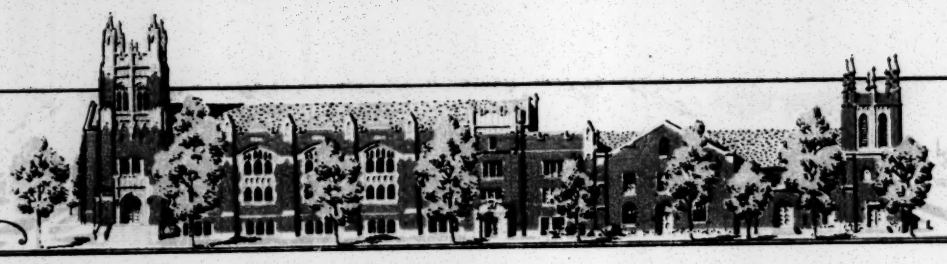
April 13, 1945

Borrowed
$ 14.[illegible] return from travel

$ 8 paid on Lot

Mrs.

MINISTERS
L. DAVID COWIE
STUART SCHIMPF
Church Phone, Li 3220



The word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.
I Peter 1:25

Linwood Presbyterian Church

LINWOOD BOULEVARD · WOODLAND TO MICHIGAN · KANSAS CITY 3, MISSOURI

May 4, 1945

Dear Miss Irene:

I just returned this morning to find your lovely letter waiting for me. You certainly had some harrowing experiences! It would seem that the elements were trying to make you feel at home in staging a real Chinese flood.

I can not tell you how much your blessed ministry meant to us. Your winsomeness for Jesus Christ was irresistible to all of us. Your continued graciousness under such a heavy schedule was a real inspiration. Your messages drove home the challenge of Christ in an indelible manner. May the Lord continue to bless and strengthen you.

We had a fruitful trip. The highlight was Trenton, N.J., where Louis Evans spoke Friday night and I followed Saturday and Sunday. When the appeal was given Sunday afternoon, between 75 and 100 young people came forward and into the after meeting. Thank God for His graciousness.

It was a joy to have Ardelle and mother and dad along. The latter two had not seen New York since they passed through there on their way from Scotland some thirty-three years ago. They especially enjoyed seeing the places in and around Princeton of which I had written often when I was a student there.

I surely hope our paths cross again soon.

Sincerely in Christ,

L. David Cowie

LAW OFFICES
HULBERT & MARLATT
1025 GARY NATIONAL BANK BLDG.
504 BROADWAY
GARY, INDIANA

GEORGE W. HULBERT
WILLIAM I. MARLATT

PHONE 5521

May 15, 1945

Dear Irene,

Mabel and I have much appreciated your letters and we have read with much pleasure Emmett's letters to you which you have so kindly enclosed. Emmett's handwriting is hard for us to read, but we are able to make it out. We want to tell you again that we much enjoyed and appreciated your talk before the Gary Lions Club. At least fifteen members of the club spoke to us and thanked us for having had you come. Some of the members are quite cold and hard in their thinking, but they enjoyed your talk and accepted what you said as almost the literal truth, which was very unusual for them.

You are doing a great work. It was obvious to us that you love it. An even richer future lies before you. We hope that out of San Francisco conference will come world peace. There may be an outbreak of war here and there in the future, but we hope that there will never be another world conflagration.

Your plans are doubtless changing from time to time. If you are in the Chicago area next summer, give us a ring and tell us you are coming down to see us. You are invited, and the latch string is out. A letter has gone out to Emmett today.

Sincerely yours,

George

GENERAL PRESBYTER
CLARENCE S. GEE
1652 NEIL AVE.
COLUMBUS 1, OHIO

THE SYNOD OF OHIO

Of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

OFFICE OF
GENERAL PRESBYTER SERVICE
PHONE: UNIVERSITY 9894

STATED CLERK
E. W. LODWICK
SEVILLE, OHIO

May 18, 1945

Dear Irene Forsythe:

Granville was splendid and you did a great deal to make it so. I wish we could have had more time together for I am sure we could have made good use of it.

We surely will hope to have you again in Ohio.

Sincerely

Nettie P. Moore

Miss Irene Forsythe
77 West Washington St.,
Chicago 3, Illinois

First Presbyterian Church
Frederick W. Backemeyer, Minister
Gary, Indiana

May 24, 1945

Miss Irene Forsythe,
Board of Foreign Missions,
77 W. Wash. St.,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Miss Forsythe:

The chairman of the program committee of Kiwanis Club asked me on Tuesday if you might be available for an address such as you recently gave before the Rotary Club.

Our Kiwanis meetings are held each Tuesday, and I am writing to ask if it would be possible for you to be with us on one of the following dates:

June 19th, or
June 26th, or
July 10th, or
July 17th.

I believe they have an honorarium of fifteen dollars which they usually pay the speaker. Personally, I would be delighted if you would give the same address you gave at Rotary. I was present as guest that day, and I know how fine an impression you made on those business men. It is just what is needed in these noon luncheon clubs all over the country.

Hoping that it will be possible for you to accept this invitation, and with kind regards from Mrs. Backemeyer and myself, I remain,

Very cordially yours,

Frederick W. Backemeyer

FWB/S

June 25, 1945.

Dearest aunt Irene:

So glad to hear that you have returned to you Oak Park apartment. When will Miss Rumsey go to the summer conference? Will you get adequate care after she left? Can you get up and walk now? These are few of the questions that have come into my mind over and over again during the week again and while my mind was not so busily occupied. Hope that you will recover real soon.

King had an operation sometime before yours. He is still in bed to heard. He might has to have another operation. Wouldn't that be funny if they have to postpone their wedding the second time?

Amy is coming to stay with us this summer. Joyce is going to teach her mathematics and chemistry and then take exams. in Wheaton academy for credit. We found a room for her in our next neighbor.

Now, dearest aunt, what you need the most is a good rest. Be sure don't start riding and writing so many letters again. Take good care of yourself.

Love
Paul

GENERALISSIMO'S HEADQUARTERS OF THE NATIONAL FORCES

Nanking, July 11.

Dear Miss Forsythe,

Both Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and myself are moved by the testimony that your letter of July 9 conveys to us that you and fellow Christians remember us in your prayers.

In these difficult times our hearts are cheered by the thought that so many others realise the momentousness of events, and the portentous consequences attaching to them. We strive to do the best we can for the country and the people, and with God's help we shall succeed, and, in time, China will be free.

To you and your fellow Christians we send our sincere thanks for your prayers, and we hope that God's blessings will ever be with you all.

Very sincerely,

Mayling Soong Chiang

September 6, 1945

Dr. and Mrs. Courtland VanDeusen
Amenia, New York

Dear Dr. and Mrs. VanDeusen:

At the request of Miss Irene Forsythe we are sending you a blueprint which we are recommending for your summer home. We believe that this drawing is self-explanatory.

The only recommendation that we might make is that the water heater, if possible, be moved to the space indicated on the blueprint. We could have brought the unit in an L-shape around the corner next to the present location of the heater but putting the sink in this location would not balance well and it would add some sixty or seventy dollars to the cost of this unit.

The cost as drawn is $206.45 F.O.B. Nappanee, Indiana.

Please understand that we are quoting you factory price and it would be just as well should you choose to make this purchase for you to keep the price confidential.

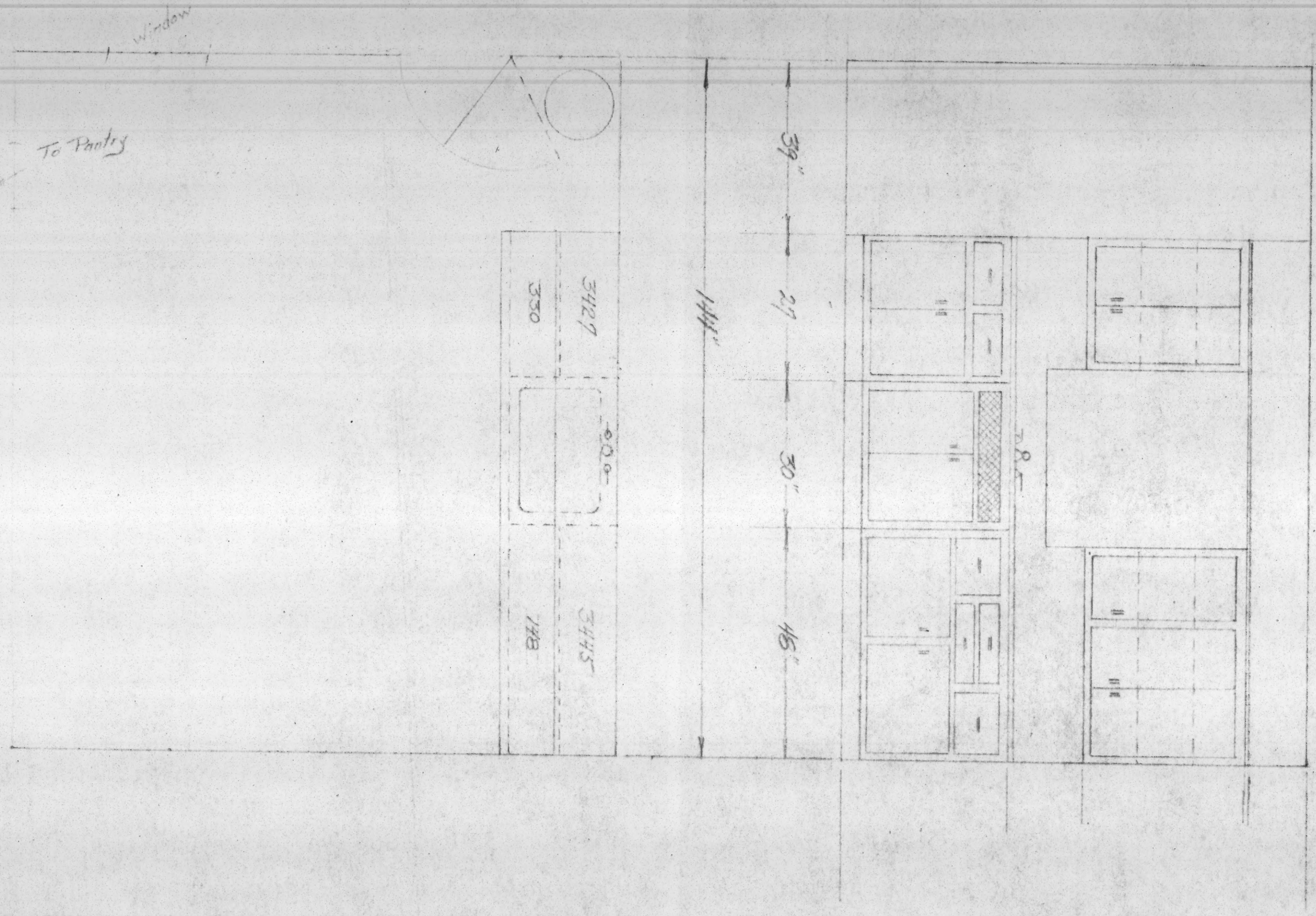
Yours very truly,

COPPES-INC.

D. S. Bloomfield

DSB:mea
Enc.
cc - Miss Irene Forsythe

Double sink is approx. $15.00 extra - Price includes 20"x45" china sink - faucet + strainer -



This Drawing is the property of

and must not be released by a representative without proper authority.

Coppes-Inc.
Nappanee, Indiana

Coppes Cabinets
OF NAPANEE

Owner Dr. & Mrs. C. Van Dusen
Location Ames, N.Y.
Scale 1/2" = 1'
Date 9-6-45
Drawn by FDS

COPY

Sept. 29, 1945
Wen-Teh Girls' School
7 Tsi-Yang Road,
Tsingtao.

Dear Van:

Well, how are you and yours? There wasn't a day past that I didn't think of you. I have no time to write you how we suffered. Anyway, we are happy now. The school is in a terrible poor condition and so am I. I couldn't manage to live on my meager salary so I sold out my house, my gold bracelet, and everything I could spare. I still have my wedding ring though.

I met the train bearing the war prisoners from Weihsien the other day. Mr. John Hayes can tell you all about it. He came to the school for a short time. I wish you were here to help me to reorganize the Board of Directors and to get the house No. 4A Tsi Yang Road for our school. We have more students than we ever had before - more than 600! I could have a thousand more if we had a bigger place.

Well, when are you coming back? Do come as soon as possible. The Japs occupied all your houses and took everything with them when they moved out. You can have new ones when you come back.

I don't know who is going to be principal of this school. I thought I did pretty well during these difficult years. I am worn out in every respect. It was such a strain on my mind constantly.

Our friend, Mr. Wang Wen-Tan - the former principal of Chung Teh School - came back with Mayor Lee. He is now principal of the Municipal Boys' School and acting Commissioner of Educational Bureau. He is certainly "stuck up." Somehow, we feel that we are looked down upon because we had no chance to get away from the enemy region. Anyway, my duty was to look after the school, and I did it as best as I knew how. God understands me if no others. I loved my country as well as anybody and taught the girls in any way I dared.

I often wonder what kind of a trip you had the last time. I sincerely hope you and Mary and all your family are well. Do write me right away; I am hungry for news from you people. Authorize me to use the house No. 4A Tsi-Yang Road - the hostel and the upper story of No. 3 where the Owens used to live. The Japs built a staircase from the outside to go upstairs.

I must stop, as I must go to the Edge Water Mansion to ask Mr. Hayes to take this letter. Excuse my writing and my poor English. I haven't practiced it for more than three years. My best wishes and love to you all. Please share this with Mary. Let me know your address.

As ever yours,

Mehyuin D. Fay

Copy of letter from Mrs. Donald Fay of Tsingtao, China. Dated Oct. 25, 1945

Dear Van: I trust that you have received my letter now which was written in a hurry. Since Chaplain Hamerson offers to mail letters for me I thought I would write again to make a report in detail. Well, you know a little about the beginning so I will skip that part.

Two years ago last August they (the Japs) asked me to be principal of the government girl's School. I argued with them and begged them to let me to stay where I was. Our Board of Directors helped me too, so I finally got out of it. Last year they changed our school as all the mission schools into municipal schools. Wen Deh was called the Third Municipal Girl's Middle School. Our chapel was partitioned into 3 classrooms in order to accommodate more students. This was done by order of the "government". Of course I resigned, but they insisted that I should continue. On top of this they also made me head of the women's Unity Club which I refused on the ground that I was too old to do 2 men's job. The result was that I had to be head in name but I did not have to do much work. Every since I have said things that were not from my own will. They also sent me to Nanking to attend a big conference which was called by the puppet government. I went because I wanted to see my husband whom I had not seen for 4 years. It was impossible for me to get on the train if I did not go with the party and I had no money. Donald went to Nanking for 2 days to see me but the children did not go. I didn't do a thing, and I said nothing during the conference. I did make a speech on "The Impressions of the Meeting" after I came back. I had to. I knew I shouldn't do all those things but I had to to save my life. But, I assure you I didn't do a thing beyond a few empty words which were fashionable at the time—to do anybody any harm I wanted to write you last year about all these but I dared not.

We are glad now that we are free again. The educational bureau ordered the school to reorganize the Board of Directors. Mr. Lusn, Mr. T'ang, the former two—together with Mr. Want Wen T'an and six other prominent men are now on the board. As we don't get any money from the government or from any other resources we are hard up. In fact I am having trouble to keep the teachers. One left this morning. Our school teachers only get 1/3 of what the other school teachers get. One bag of flour costs more than $6,000. now and there are only 5 of us who get this much salary: the rest get from $3,000. to $5,000. The students pay for all the expenses. If we charge the students too much for tuition it would be too hard too hard on the parents, besides we can't compete with the other schools. The government won't allow us to collect too big a fee from the students. Somehow we feel we are like little orphans now.

I have pleaded with my teachers to wait for better days. Will you please kindly help me out by asking the Board or some kind-hearted people to contribute some money to our school. A few hundred American dollars will pull us thru. When will you come back? We miss you so much.

Mr. Reinbrecht is looking after all the Presbyterian houses. I heard that everything that belonged to the houses at No. 3 and 5 Taiyang Road is gone. There are quite a lot of things left in the Coonradt house, and in the Lutheran Mission Hospital. In fact, the Japs built a building for the latter last year. Your house and no. 5 were occupied by the customs officers while the others were occupied by the Japanese Navy officers. They built a high, big counter across the floor in Miss Gernhardt's sitting room. In the back of it they built a platform wide enough for chairs so the officers or judges could sit there to try the "prisoners". I have seen some prisoners—Chinese men, women, girls, students, teachers, brought in, but I often wondered what became of them. Well, I think the Japs will have to pay for all the evil they have done.

The big surrender ceremony took place this morning at 11 o'clock on the race course. Thanks to your brave army! All the Chinese are grateful. I think it is a great opportunity to do mission work now.

Excerpts of Letters from
Mr. F.H.Connely,

Address:Chap.J.L.A.Hamerson
6th Mar.Div.Ser.Bn.
c/o F.P.O.
San Francisco, Cal.

Tsining Shantung
Oct.24

We left harbor at six this morning and will stop at Okinawa for further orders. Some say that we won't take on any cargo, but other say we will. If we don't, we will arrive in China about a week from today - about four days to Okinawa and two full days from their to Tsingtao.

Today, our sailors have been busy throwing all their ammunition overboard. They have thrown several hundred thousand dollars worth of ammunition overboard to get rid of it. I never dreamed a little merchant ship like this would carry such a pile of ammunition for is own protection. There were hundred of five inch shells; thousands of 20 mm antiaircraft shells-hundreds of thousands I should say. It was sure some sight. They had about eighteen smoke bombs to put up a smoke screen. I was able to scrounge five big wooden boxes that some of these were kept in, and broke them up, saved the nails and boards and may box up my groceries with them. Even if I don't get to do it, I had a lot of fun and exercise getting it done, and that is the principal thing.

5 complete

Oct.29,1945

Our boat, the Hannibal Victory is chartered to the Marines and is filled with supplies for them in Tsingtao. Most of the cargo, I am sorry to say, is beer and whiskey for the boys. There are 40,000 cases of beer aboard, and I don't know how much whiskey. We didn't leave Frisco on the fourth as we planned for the boat didn't go. Finally on the fifth they said that a boat was leaving on the ~~sixty~~ sixth and they could give us a place on it, even though we hadn't succeeded in getting our Chinese visas on our Passports. So we signed up in a hurry and started on this Victory ship, 17 of us in one room, in steel hammocks, three deep. The accommodations aren't anything to bragg on, but we were glad to come any way we could. With us are eighteen other passengers, 4 UNRRA personal, three Chinese Engineers, and eleven tobacco and Oil men (2 oil men). We wonder why we Christians haven't been as zealous to get our Missionaries to China as the tobacco people have been? No other Missionaries of any denomination seem to be coming at this time. I had supposed the boat would be full of them.

We couldn't get much information about the boat and I was taking over a thousand pounds of old clothing that I collected from Euclid and Delmar churches that last week. I also bought fifty dollars worth of groceries to bring along. As we were allowed only 350 pounds each, we were wondering how well I could get by bringing so much stuff. The other men didn't dare bring anything. I had thought maybe they wouldn't be

bringing much and that I could bring more on account of their small amount but they each had their full allowance but no more. Getting on the boat, no questions were asked as to the amount. We could have brought several times the amount we did all free of charge as the boat is lightly loaded. We all regret that we couldn't have found out earlier, and brought a lot more stuff. I regret especially not bringing out a lot of canned fruits and vegetables. I do have a case each of pineapple juice, grapefruit juice, spam, prunes, soups, etc. Also have a doxen pounds of Oleo and some cheese mother got for me in St.Louis. So I won't starve this winter.

~~Oct~~ Nov. 13,1945

Helen Rinell is here this week with Doris. They were all short of clothes, so I had them come up to the church yesterday afternoon and pick out clothes from my trunks to out-fit the whole family. They had quite a time and selected quite a large amount of clothing of all kinds. I knew that all would rather give clothing to them than any one else. They selected for the whole family and are going to keep most of them till Xmas and surprise the folks with the packages. Helen and Oscar are making a great point that when I come to Kiaochow, I am to be their guest, not Egron and Yerda's. Helen told me yesterday that when Oscar went back home last week and told them that I was here, that Mother Rinell just cried with joy and kept saying, "My boy is back, my boy is back".

I have an invitation to go out on a boat for a meal. I met a group of boys wanting to buy tea and silk, so led them around for their shopping. They said they would go back and find out when their best steak dinner would be and would invite me out. Its the boat that we were originally scheduled to take. It left Frisco ten days or more after we did, stopping at Honolula. Their cargo was mainly boys, having a thousand replacement troups, but not cargo. So I think we were better off on our boat. Certainly meals could be more easily served to our small group. The boat is almost as big as ours was. They saw a number of mines and shot them to explode them. Ours was the only ship to enter Tsingtao that hasn't run across a lot of mines, We never saw a one. Surely the Lord was with us.

~~XX~~ Nov.15

This has been a right busy day, again. Right after breakfast, I went with Loa Si Fu, his wife and Pastor Want to the B. & S. godown to look at furniture. There was quite a mess of it there. On the 1st floor was a half dozen pianos - none of any standard make; Larson's safe and stove, and some one's Frigidaire. The second story was filled mainly with upholstered furniture and desks. The ~~xxxx~~ third floor had a conglomerate mess of tables, a few single beds, dirty single mattresses, good rugs, etc. There wasn't much that was worth much. One could see that the Japs turned in mostly things they didn't want or couldn't sell. We found Larsons dining table minus the extra leaves and rollers; also 1/2 doz.dining chairs; a couple of small dressers minus mirrors, 2 old chiffoneers,

two cupboards, a buffet - not their good one I believe; ~~xxx~~ radio table; clock, flower stand, sq.center table and one office chair. That is all that we could locate. There was a piano from the Jap who looted their house, but I don't think it is the Larsons. I put their name on it however. The Jap, named Komoto lived in their house all the time till after the Jap surrender, and only moved out about Sept.1st this year, looting it then. I am calling attention to this fact to Major VanSchaick, who is in charge, to see if we can hold the Jap responsible and ask him for the rest.

Not one thing of Mother's could be located there. I saw a great many Weihsien friends (& otherwise) down there. Mr.Eckford, Mrs. Harris, Mrs.Rawson, the Popes, Mr. Cook and son, Mr. Baliance, Mrs. Faulkner, the McPhersons, Mr.Marcus, Mr.Sutter, etc. It looked like a few of them were just like in camp - out to grab what they could. There is no way to identify things or swear that what a fellow claims isn't his, in most cases. Larsons stuff all has a number (126) painted on, so we can identify his. One of the tribe had put his mark on Larson's dining table, but I showed him the mark, so he couldn't say anything.

After people have identified their things, I think it is the Marines idea to let folks take what they want with no questions asked, to make up for what they can't find. I was surprised at how few people were there to claim things. No one is missing much by not being there, for most of it hardly looks worth claiming. A lot of it is Jap stuff, and not looted American stuff.

2 days later Nov.17,1945

I then went to call on Major Van Schaick, head of the Civil Affairs Bureau, about Larson's furniture, as the Jap officer had stolen it after peace was declared. He gave me a note to the Jap Consul, so I next went to see him and requested him to have the Jap concerned brought to Law about it. He said he would do something.

Can you send me a small book of the S.S.lessons for 1946 by 1st class airmail. We have no quarterlies out here.

If any one else comes soon, tell them to bring for their own use, a complete stock of groceries. Fresh things can be bought when in season, but canned goods and all imported supplies are non-existent, except in small quantities that are out of reason in prices. Even flour is about $30,000 per bag (U.S.$10.00) unless one buys Chinese flour which also is very high. It would pay anyone to bring flour as well as groceries.

Last night I went to the Tsangkow Air Base. The Chaplain has been having "Forum Meetings" each Friday. The past three Fridays, he has discussed the 3 Chinese religions in order; Taoism, Buddhism and Confucianism. He asked me to lead the latter last night. I took it as an opportunity to make a real missionary talk, bringing in Confucianism as a side line. The Chaplain and men were most enthusiastic about the meeting, saying it was the best ever held. It lasted two solid hours. Afterwards they drove me back to town and to a restaurant for a 9:30 o'clock dinner. 3

November 14, 1945

Dear Friends:

Time to get the 1945 Christmas letter written. This is the time of all times that I wish for the gift of a ready pen - one that will make pen pictures. The Lord has been so marvelously good and has showered uncounted blessings

"On such love my soul shall ponder,
Love so great, so rich so free!
Say while lost in holy wonder,
Why, O Lord, such love to me."

We enter the New Year unafraid, because

"Another year I enter
Its history unknown;
Oh, how my feet would tremble
To tread its paths alone!
But I have heard a whisper,
I know I shall be blest;
My presence shall go with thee
And I will give thee rest.
What will the New Year bring me?
I may not, must not know;
Will it be love and rapture,
Or loneliness and woe?
Hush, hush! I hear His whisper;
I surely shall be blest;
My presence shall go with thee
And I will give thee rest."

Am still living at 5538 Ellis Ave., Chicago 37, the second floor of a two-story house -- which is owned by a Chinese and his American wife. The girls who were here last year have left. One of the Chinese American girls finished, the other is living with her parents nearby.

Now there are four Chinese University of Chicago students living with me. A man and wife, working for Ph D's and two men working for other degrees - you know this is a home for Chinese. These make their own food (Chinese) in my big kitchen. The pity of it is that I can't eat it being on a diet because of a gall bladder that doesn't behave properly. I feel much better and am able to work hard.

These two boys are learning to buy groceries and to wash dishes. One of them came in the other day and said "They had no sour in the store." He knew vinegar was sour. He also brought home Linit instead of corn starch - which they use for gravies and sauces.

These Oriental students get lonesome and homesick. The Lord has sent them here. Do pray that they may return as ambassadors for the Lord of Lords - and King of Kings - the only true God, the Creator who created all things out of nothing and hangs all the stars and planets and solar systems on nothing. They hang alright - don't they? as well as the infinitesimal solar systems of the atoms.

There is a professor here who teaches that the best way to bring about racial unity is by inter-marriage. The results of such marriages that I have known about in other lands were not always happy.

Another student in Department of Socialogy who has been in this country about a year has been given 60 immense questionnaires to be filled out by people over 60 years of age. Especially those in Homes for the Elderly. I have enjoyed going with him to several Old Peoples Homes. Wish I could tell you about them.

Needless to say, I like my home. These young people have many guests so I have met many of the Chinese Students in the U. of C. as well as others passing through Chicago. Mostly they are Chinese. In one group was a Polish soldier in uniform, a man from Latvia a Jewish man and two attractive young women students. Another group: - there were 3 Divinity students - a Japanese man and an American

man and girl, also a negro woman whose Philippino husband was in the service. She was charming and interesting and very frank about inter-racial problems. The other evening there were four, a Russian couple, a Jewish man and a Polish girl. He seemed very glad to accept a New Testament prepared for Hebrews -- Pray that he may read it and look up the O. T. references and see Jesus as his own Messiah and his personal Saviour.

Have had many letters from May Wen whom you know was the first picked-up-baby girl brought to me one cold November day. When I left Tenghsien she was there as a nurse in the hospital -- later she escaped to Free China and entered a hospital training school in Sian, Shensi - where she is to finish in December. This is her fourth hospital. When the Japs looted, every one fled. Last winter she wrote about how cold it was. She did not have sufficient clothes but dared not buy more for they feared the Japs were headed that way and if they had to flee she could not carry very much. No heat in the nurses home, and shampooed hair in icy water. Told about some most pitiful cases among the refugees. Hungry, cold, sick, dying. She used her money to help some of them. The graduation gift I sent her she wanted to send back to Tenghsien to help some of the orphan girls. Especially two. May Li, or Fatty. Three dogs standing by when she was picked up - a few-days-old baby girl so fat and dear. Now she is about 16 and no tuition for High School - often not enough to eat and wear. When I left Tenghsien (was compelled to leave) about 25 or 30 little homeless girls were in the orphanage. The other one, May Wen, especially wants to help is May Tswei - she was born a few months after her father died - mother very poor with 5 children and thought she couldn't possibly care for another and that only a girl - Her special friend wanted to take her to that queer foreigner who accepted unwanted baby girls - rather than pay some one to put her in the public burying ground where the dogs would soon find her. Sometimes you hear "Why send Missionaries - they have their own religions." After centuries of all "their own religions" and their many, many Gods - women, especially girls and babies are of so little value - just let the dogs have a tender meal. It also will pacify the evil spirits. "Their religions are good enough - they don't need the love of Jesus!!!!" Is it true. Such talk comes from the Father of Lies.

May Wen (Dodds) writes that the orphans and the lepers are praying that I might return. Being "retired" (don't like that word) must pay my own travel expenses if I returned. Would like to help get the orphanage and leper homes in working order ready for whoever takes them over.

Please write me what you think about hand work - what can the girls make that you all would buy and help sell? What patterns or pieces have you that you would like copied? Will do my best to take good care of them and return them. May Wen writes that she can get that lovely grass cloth (linen) that we used to use for cross stitch. I can take a lot of suitable thread back with me. How about tatting? or crochet? You know that there is nothing we can make to sell there at a profit. I was able to pay the girls enough for their work so they could earn tuition and often their food also. Now the Christians will be poorer than ever. You know money can be sent now and, Oh the good it would do!

The women, too, who attend the Woman's Bible School will need to earn part or all of their expenses. We did not permit the school girls to earn more than was necessary to enable them to attend school. Otherwise they would work half the nights and not only neglect their studies but injure their eyes. The little kerosene lamps or the native tiny oil wicks give such a poor light. I used to use 2 lamps together. Please tell me soon, your ideas about hand work. My sister, Mabel, who handled the hand work during the years, did a splendid job. She now is in Portland. I hope she can manage this end of it again.

The other day I received three letters all at once from May Wen. I wrote her advising her to get married. She wants to wait until I return so she can help me. She asked, "Mother, who rubs your back now when it aches?"

Don't forget to visit me any time you pass through Chicago, at least call up -- Plaza 4412. And pray about the leper homes - a few lepers begging by day, so pitiful! The Japanese did not seem to want the leper homes which are out in the open country.

Pray that the Lord's Will be done about my returning. I so much hope to return. I do say "Thy Will - not mine." May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Glory, give you each the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him; may you know the hope of His calling and the Riches of the glory of His inheritance in the Saints; and what is the exceeding greatness of His power to usward who believe.

Alma D Dodds